

~~Game Theory~~ Graph Model Conflict  
Resolution Approach for Jordan River Basin  
Dispute

**ABSTRACT**

This paper aims to establish a practical conflict resolution mechanism and applies it to solve the strategic long-term dispute for Jordan River Basin. The paper starts with a brief history of the Jordan River Basin dispute. The paper then presents a game theoretic approach based on the Graph Model technique for conflict resolution, to investigate the Jordan River Basin dispute, considering the complex socio-political aspects involved. The proposed ~~g~~ model of ~~this paper first~~ defines the courses of actions available to all the involved stakeholders along with their preferences among them. Accordingly, the model applies stability and sensitivity ~~analyses to~~ propose an optimum resolution to the conflict and to examine the sensitivity of such resolution to the uncertainty in stakeholders' preferences. In this study, three scenarios were investigated with different coalition possibilities among different countries, as follow: (i) Syria, Lebanon, Israel, and Jordan; (ii) Lebanon, Jordan, Israel, and Palestine; and (iii) Jordan, Israel, and Palestine. The results of the model suggest that the best resolution for all parties is through combined water and peace treaties. The results also indicate that a peace treaty between Israel and Palestine is the best resolution to the conflicts. The application of the Graph model in this paper shows its practicality and ability to provide each decision maker with a simulation environment to examine the actions and counteractions that take place during the negotiation among the different parties.

- 24 **Keywords:** water disputes, conflict resolution, graph model, decision support system,  
25 multiple criteria decision analysis, Jordan River Basin.

26 **1. INTRODUCTION**

27 Many regions around the world deal with shortages of water. However, some areas  
28 deal more with conflicts over poor and insufficient water supplies and disputes over shared  
29 water supplies. In regions where countries compete for access to water, the relations between  
30 the countries are to be expected unstable. In regions where water supply is limited, fight and  
31 combat sometimes appears to be the only way to resolve the problem. It is estimated that  
32 there are 1,250 square ~~kilometers~~skilometres of freshwater remaining in the world's semi-arid  
33 and arid regions and this supply is not evenly distributed among two or more countries  
34 sharing the same water source. Severe water scarcity is strongest in the Middle East,  
35 especially in the Jordan and Nile River Basins. The need for water in these regions is  
36 essential for food production in farming.

37 Water systems usually originate and arise in one country and pass through others  
38 before reaching the sea or oceans. The rivers and lakes that come off these larger water  
39 systems are typically shared by more than one country. The countries where water systems  
40 originate try and gain the most control over the water. This is the case along river systems  
41 like the Jordan River, where the river originates in Lebanon and passes through Jordan, Syria,  
42 and Israel. The ~~river play~~river plays a very important role in the agriculture and economic  
43 development of these countries. In such a water conflict, the countries are involved as  
44 decision makers (DMs) and each can make choices unilaterally. The combined choices of all  
45 players (DM) together determine a resolution state or a possible outcome of the conflict.  
46 However, instead of unilaterally moving, the DMs may also choose to cooperate or form  
47 coalitions. In such environment, Game theory techniques such as the Graph Model for  
48 Conflict Resolution, offers a useful and precise language for representing and analysing such  
49 disputes.

50 In the water domain, many researchers have attempted to examine conflicts in a  
51 game-theoretic framework. Rogers (1969) studied the international conflict over flooding of  
52 Ganges and Brahmapurta rivers between India and Pakistan. Dufounaud (1982) used  
53 Metagame theory for the negotiations over the Columbia and lower Makong river basin.  
54 Becker and Easter (1995) developed a dominant strategy selection for conflict over water  
55 diversions from the Great Lakes between Canada and USA. Obeidie et al. (2002) provided a  
56 systematic non-cooperative study of a conflict over the proposed export of bulk water from  
57 Canada using the graph model. Raquel et al. (2007) developed cooperative solution concepts  
58 for weighing the economic benefits versus negative environmental impacts from agriculture  
59 production. Fisvold and Caswell (2000) implemented cooperative solution concepts for  
60 deriving policy lessons useful for US-Mexico water negotiations and institutions. Supalla et  
61 al. (2002) used second price sequential action method for determining the share and prices of  
62 water in the Platte River in the USA (Colorado, Nebraska, and Wyoming). Kucukmehmtoglu  
63 and Guldmen (2004) developed a cooperative solution concept for developing stable water  
64 allocations among the countries riparian to Euphrates and Tigris between Iraq, Syria, and  
65 Turkey. Wu and Whittington (2006) developed a cooperative solution concept for  
66 establishing baseline conditions for incentive-compatible cooperation regimes in the Nile  
67 basin among Burundi, Congo, Egypt, Eriteria, Ethipoia, Kenya, Rwanda, Sudan, Tanzania,  
68 and Uganda. Madani and Hipel (2007) used the Graph Model for Conflict resolution to  
69 provide insight into Jordan River Basin conflict between Syria, Lebanon, Jordan, Israel.  
70 Sheikmohammady and Madani (2008a,b) used fallback bargaining, social choice rules,  
71 bankruptcy procedures, and descriptive modeling techniques for providing the most likely  
72 outcomes of the Caspian Sea dispute among Azerbaijan, Iran, Kazakhstan, Russia, and  
73 Turkmenistan. Elimam et al. (2008) studied the non-cooperative behaviour of the decision

74 makers involved in the Nile river conflict and determined the most likely outcomes of the  
75 conflict using the Graph model.

76 The objective of this paper is to introduce the graph model for conflict resolution  
77 (Fang et al. 1993) and apply it to analyse the different possible coalitions among the countries  
78 involved in the Jordan River Basin. To facilitate the analysis, a decision support system,  
79 called “conGres” developed based on the early work of Kassab et al. (2009), has been used to  
80 implement the graph model approach for the Jordan River conflict. The model helps to select  
81 the optimum resolution, considering the uncertainty in decision makers’ preferences.

## 82 | 2. ANALYZING THE JORDAN RIVER BASIN ~~CONFLICT~~CONFLICT

83 The area of the Jordan River Basin, including parts of Lebanon, Syria, Israel, Jordan,  
84 and the occupied West Bank (represented by Palestine), is primarily an arid region. The  
85 Jordan River basin has an area of 18,300 square ~~kilometers~~kilometres (see Figure 1). The  
86 river originates and begins in Lebanon and has a total average flow of 1,200 million cubic  
87 meters per year. This river system consists of the Jordan and Yarmuk River, which flows  
88 from Syria. With the low precipitation and arid climate in this region, water has become the  
89 most valuable resource. Most countries in the Jordan River Basin are among some of the  
90 poorest countries in the region. Groundwater aquifers are the main source for water supplies  
91 to the countries that rely on the Jordan River. The use of water varies throughout the region.  
92 Israel uses the greatest amount of water and next in line is Jordan. The occupied West bank  
93 (Palestine) uses the smallest amount. The daily amount of water per person in the Jordan  
94 River Basin is the lowest in the world (UN-ESCWA and BGR, 2013).

95 Demand on water in the region has been increasing faster than the region's water  
96 supply. Also previous records show that the options of the DMs have not changed  
97 considerably since the foundation of Israel. This conflict has been existed from earlier times  
98 and several temporary rulings have been experienced during this relatively long time period.

99 ***Decision Support System***

100 To analyse the Jordan River Conflict, a DSS, called "**conflict Game** for dispute **resolution**,  
101 **conGres**", developed based on the early work of Kassab et al. (2006b; 2009) has been  
102 customized for this conflict. As shown on the right side of Figure 2, the DSS integrates three  
103 techniques: (1) the elimination method (MacCrimmon 1973) as a multiple-criteria decision  
104 analysis technique used to shortlist decision alternatives; (2) the graph model for conflict  
105 resolution (Fang et al. 1993) to simulate the actions and counteractions that take place during  
106 negotiation; and (3) the information gap (info-gap) theory (Hipel and Ben-Haim 1999, Ben-  
107 Haim 2006) to address the uncertainty associated with the stakeholders' preferences. The  
108 following steps demonstrate the implementation of the DSS for Jordan River Basin case  
109 study, with the goal of identifying the best resolution. Figure 3 shows the main interface of  
110 the conGres DSS.

111 ***Step 1: Define Stakeholder and their options***

112 Five stakeholders (DMs) are involved in this conflict: Lebanon, Syria, Israel, Jordan, and  
113 Palestine. The mutually exclusive decision options available to each of the DMs are shown in  
114 Table 1. In addition to doing nothing, important options are: unilaterally [increase](#)  
115 [own](#) [increases own](#) share of water extraction, holding a peace treaty, holding a water treaty,  
116 and doing a counteraction against another country that unilaterally increased its share.

117 Considering a scenario with four key DM countries and their options (3 options Lebanon, 4  
118 options for Jordan, 5 options for Israel, and two options for Palestine), the information was  
119 entered into the DSS (see Figure 4), thus a total of 120 possible decision states were  
120 generated ( $3 \times 4 \times 5 \times 2$ ). These 120 possible solutions or decision states represent all  
121 possible combinations of the stakeholders' options.

122

123 ***Step 2: Shortlist feasible solutions***

124 Given 120 decision states, it is important to recognize and eliminate any solution with  
125 infeasible combinations of options and then choose and focus on the most promising ones.  
126 The advantage of the elimination method provides the ability to eliminate some of the  
127 alternatives that do not meet stakeholder threshold values of acceptance. Based on different  
128 studies as suggested by Haddadin (2014) and Madani and Hipel (2007), 113 decision states  
129 were eliminated (see Table 3). Only seven (7) feasible solutions were selected, therefore  
130 producing a short list of feasible alternatives (Figure 5).

### 131 *Step 3: Understanding stakeholders' preferences*

132 Before applying the graph model for conflict resolution considering various coalition  
133 scenarios among the DMs, it is important to understand and model the stakeholders'  
134 preferences. The Preferences of DMs can be ordinal, where each DM ranks the decision  
135 states relative to each other, but is not able to specify their exact payoff values. Alternatively,  
136 the preferences can be cardinal, where each DM is able to quantify the payoffs of the  
137 different states. For the Jordan River Basin conflict, the payoff values are not available and  
138 therefore, ordinal preferences have been used. The preferences of each involved DM are  
139 discussed as follows:

140

141 **Lebanon:** Due to water shortage in the area, like other DMs, Lebanon likes to increase its  
142 withdrawal of the water if there is no opposition (counteraction) by downstream DMs. Thus,  
143 any decision\_ state in which an increase in withdrawal will be countered by downstream  
144 parties is least desired by Lebanon. Being the upstream nation and having good access to  
145 water resources compared to other DMs, Lebanon is not interested in signing any water or  
146 peace treaty with downstream nations which limits ~~there~~ their access of water from the Jordan  
147 River. It is assumed that Lebanon wants to sign a water treaty only if the other riparian Arab  
148 countries choose to sign water treaties with Israel, which may lead to bringing peace to the  
149 region.

150 **Syria:** Syria mostly prefers to increase its water share if there is no counteraction by  
151 downstream DMs. Syria prefers ~~that~~ other parties ~~do not~~ to increase their withdrawal and it  
152 prefers to take counteraction rather than to do nothing in case of a water withdrawal ~~an~~  
153 increase by another party. It is also believed that Syria is interested in signing a water treaty  
154 only if Jordan and Israel are both involved. Syria prefers a scenario where all ~~If all the~~ parties  
155 are willing to signing a water treaty. ~~may be more preferred to Syria because of its steadiness~~  
156 ~~to bring peace to the area.~~

157

158 **Jordan:** Jordan is also mainly attracted in increasing its withdrawal from the river if there is  
159 no objection and least prefers any counteractions by others. Jordan does not like other parties  
160 to increase their withdrawal from River and ~~it~~ is only interested in signing a treaty with all ~~of~~  
161 ~~the~~ other parties. When share is increaseds by another country, Jordan prefers to react in  
162 terms of complaints, rather than military means. Jordan prefers to sign a treaty with Israel.  
163 However, it ~~likes~~ prefers that other countries to sign the water treaty when its right is  
164 protected.

165 **Israel:** Israel, like other DMs, wants to increase its withdrawal if there is no counteraction by  
166 downstream DMs. Israel would like to sign a treaty with other riparian countries and it does  
167 not want the other parties to increase their withdrawals from the Jordan River. In case of an  
168 increase in withdrawal by another country, Israel prefers to counteract, which has  
169 traditionally been in terms of military actions. It is believed that this country would like to  
170 have peace treaty with the Palestine.

171 **Palestine:** It is assumed that the Palestine ~~liked~~ prefers to have peace and therefore more  
172 access to water. Therefore, Palestine ~~prefer~~ prefers to have peace treaty with Israel.

173 **Step 4: Accounting for uncertain information**



174 In this step, the uncertainties associated with ambiguity in stakeholder preferences are  
175 considered and its impact measured on the final resolution of the conflict. The DSS uses the  
176 info-gap theory (Ben-Haim 2006) to furnish the user with the ability to consider such  
177 uncertainties. The info-gap method runs a systematic procedure for investigating the  
178 robustness of a decision under the uncertainty of the stakeholder preferences (Ben-Haim and  
179 Hipel 2002). Info-gap modelling could be interpreted as a comprehensive approach to  
180 sensitivity analysis.

### 181 **3. CONFLICT RESOLUTION UNDER COALITION SCENARIOS**

182 In this study, the graph model (Fang et al. 1993) has been applied to the conflict. This  
183 comprehensive decision technology has been applied to a range of different conflicts,  
184 including local and international trade disputes (Hipel et al. 2001). In a recent research  
185 (Kassab et al. 2006), the graph model was used to resolve a construction conflict between a  
186 contractor and an owner.

187 The graph model mathematically describes how stakeholders (DMs) interact with one another  
188 in terms of negotiation moves and countermoves, based on their preferences. After specifying  
189 the stakeholders' preferences, the process examines the stability of the shortlisted solutions  
190 with respect to four main stability concepts: Nash (R); General Metarationality (GMR);  
191 Symmetric Metarationality (SMR); and Sequential Stability (SEQ), as described in Table 2.  
192 For mathematical definitions of the stability concepts, all information can be found in Fang et  
193 al. (1993) and Kassab et al. (2006a). Each of the four stability concepts tests a solution from  
194 a different perspective. For instance, a decision state is considered Nash stable for one DM if  
195 the DM cannot find a more preferred state to move to. When a decision state is found to be  
196 stable for all the stakeholders, it represents an equilibrium situation, i.e. a decision state that  
197 has high potential of satisfying all parties.

198 In this study, the conflict resolution process has been applied under three scenarios with  
199 different coalition possibilities among the DMs: (1) coalition among Lebanon, Jordan, Israel,  
200 and Palestine; (2) coalition among Jordan, Israel, and Palestine; and (3) coalition among  
201 Syria, Israel, Jordan, and Lebanon. The graph model process was applied to these scenarios  
202 separately aiming to obtain the robust and stable solution according to stakeholders'  
203 preferences.

204 ***Scenario one: Coalition between Lebanon, Jordan, Israel and Palestine***

205

206 In this scenario, ~~coalition among four stakeholders are~~coalitions among four stakeholders are  
207 considered, ~~lebanon~~Lebanon, Jordan, Israel, and Palestine. The first stakeholder (Lebanon)  
208 has four mutually exclusive decisions: Increase share, counteraction, water treaty, and do  
209 nothing. The second stakeholder (Jordan) has the same mutually exclusive decisions. The  
210 third stakeholder (Israel) has five mutually exclusive decisions: Increase share, counteraction,  
211 water treaty, peace treaty, and do nothing. The fourth stakeholder (Palestine) has two  
212 mutually exclusive decisions: peace treaty and do thing. All of these mutually exclusive  
213 decisions are explained in details in Table 1.

214 Specifying the stakeholders of four countries (Lebanon, Jordan, Israel, and Palestine)  
215 and their options results in a total of 120 possible "decision states" ( $3 \times 2 \times 4 \times 5$ ). The 120  
216 possible solutions or decision states represent all possible combinations of the stakeholder  
217 options.

218 Based on different studies which are suggested by Madani and Hipel (2007) and Haddadin  
219 (2014), 113 decision states were eliminated. Only seven (7) feasible solutions were selected,  
220 therefore producing a short list of feasible alternatives (Figure 4). The shortlisted solution  
221 will be further examined. In this study, various stakeholder preferences on scale (0-100%)  
222 were considered, as shown in Table 4.

223 The shortlisted solutions obtained by the elimination method were further examined.  
224 The stakeholder preferences, based on Haddadin (2014), among the various decision states  
225 are as follow (decision preference set 1): Lebanon has 50% preference in a Water Treaty;  
226 Jordan has 50% preference in a Water Treaty; Israel has 30% preference in a Water treaty;  
227 and Palestine has a 100% preference in a Peace Treaty (see Figure 5).

228 The results indicated that among the seven feasible solutions for the first stakeholder  
229 preferences, solution one (1) is the best solution with 18300 ~~payoff~~ payoffs (see Table 3 and  
230 Figure 6). The ~~model find~~ model finds all stability concepts (R, SEQ, GMR, and SMR) are in  
231 equilibrium status for the best solution. ~~This imply~~ This implies that the peace treaty between  
232 Israel and Palestine and a Water treaty between Israel, Jordan, and Lebanon ~~are is the a~~ are a robust  
233 and stable solution.

234 Alternatively, the stakeholder preferences were changed among the various decision  
235 states are as follow (decision preference 2): Lebanon has 50% preference in a Water Treaty;  
236 Jordan has 100% preference in a Water Treaty; Israel has 100% preference in a Water treaty;  
237 and Palestine has a 100% preference in a Peace Treaty (see Figure 7). Results indicated that  
238 solution (1) still the robust solution with payoff of 19500 (see Figure 8).

239 Furthermore, when reducing the 120 solution to 20 solutions instead of seven (7)  
240 solutions and considering more solutions which includes increasing shares and  
241 counteraction, result still suggests the first options (water treaty, peace treaty) as the best  
242 solution (Figure 9). The results suggest that the status quo scenario (Do nothing) has received  
243 the lowest payoff score and is not Nash (R) stable. However, the solution still less risky than  
244 increasing withdrawal by the upstream parties (Figure 10).

245 The results are not stable (Equilibrium) when the parties increased share. All results  
246 are stable when decision makers choose the water and peace treaties. ~~The option~~ The option  
247 of do nothing is the least preferred with the lowest payoff among other options. However, the

248 | results suggest that the do nothing ~~option~~ is option is less risky than one nation may decide to  
249 | increase its share. Therefore, it is more desirable that parties could find the best and stable  
250 | solution and to have several attempts to reach the preferred equilibrium option.

251 |         Since stakeholders are not certain about their goals and preferences, ~~as the~~ because  
252 | Jordan may not trust the Syria and Israel for this problem. Therefore, uncertainty analysis  
253 | associated with stakeholder preferences was performed. Table 3 lists the percentages of the  
254 | assumed uncertainty for each stockholder's preference values. The stakeholders are assigned  
255 | a high value of +10% ~~uncertainty~~ uncertainties to their preferences. Once the uncertainty level  
256 | ~~was is~~ specified, the DSS then performs a number of experiments (with 100 experiments). It  
257 | then presents the results in the form of a histogram (see Figure 6).

#### 258 | ***Scenario two: Coalition between Jordan, Israel and Palestine***

259 |         Specifying the stakeholders of four countries (Lebanon, Jordan, Israel, and Palestine)  
260 | and their options results in a total of 40 possible "decision states" ( $2 \times 4 \times 5$ ). The 40 possible  
261 | solutions or decision states represent all possible combinations of the stakeholder options.  
262 | They were shortlisted to seven (7) options as described in Figure but excluding Lebanon.  
263 | Alternatively, the solutions were also reduced to 20 options to consider increasing share for  
264 | different stakeholders. Interestingly, in both cases, the results suggest that solution one (1) is  
265 | the best solution after considering the two different stakeholder preferences (0-100%). The  
266 | best solution is stable with all stability concepts R, GMR, SMR, and SEQ. The results also  
267 | shows that the do nothing or status quo solution received the lowest payoff values, but is  
268 | more preferred than increasing withdrawal of water from one party.

269 |

#### 270 | ***Scenario three: Coalition between Syria, Lebanon, Jordan, Israel***

271 |         Specifying the stakeholders of four countries (Syria, Lebanon, Jordan, and Israel) and  
272 | their options results in a total of 240 possible "decision states" ( $5 \times 4 \times 4 \times 3$ ). The 240

273 possible solutions or decision states represent all possible combinations of the stakeholder  
274 options. They were shortlisted to 7 solutions and allow consider increasing share and  
275 counteractions among stakeholders. The results still suggest that signing water treaty among  
276 parties is the best and stable ~~solution~~-solution. The best solution has achieved equilibrium  
277 four stability concepts of R, GMR, SMR, and SEQ. It is also concluded that do nothing  
278 solution is not a Nash stable solution, but still better than increase withdrawal and  
279 ~~counteraction~~-counteraction.

280

#### 281 4. SUMMARY AND CONCLUSION

282 This study ~~introduceed~~-introduces the graph model for the water dispute in Jordan  
283 River Basin problem. This study clearly ~~proved~~-proves that the Graph Model for conflict  
284 resolution can be used to solve socio-political conflict appropriately. Further, the model can  
285 be flexible and ~~simplified~~-simplify all process and consider stability and sensitivity analysis.  
286 That is, it eventually finds the optimum solution based on stakeholders preferences. Using  
287 graph model make it possible to shortlist various decision makers and infeasible solutions. In  
288 Jordan River Basin problem, the 120 and 240 solutions were reduced to only ~~7-feasible~~seven  
289 (7) feasible solutions. In addition, using conflict resolution with info-gap theory led to  
290 solution one (1) as the best solution. After testing three different ~~scenarios~~-scenarios with  
291 different coalition and preferences among parties, results found water treaty between Syria,  
292 Lebanon, Jordan, Israel produce the robust and stable solutions. It is also established that the  
293 current situation is the least desirable solution but is more preferred and stable than  
294 increasing the abstraction of water from the upstream parties.

295 The Jordan River Conflict is ~~n-a~~ a good example for interstate water conflict where  
296 upstream and downstream parties cannot agree on the amount to be ~~withdraw~~-withdrawn from  
297 a common pool aquifer or a river. The results of this study established that the upstream

298 parties would not increase their share of water from the Jordan River, to avoid any possible  
299 counter act from the downstream parties. ~~The state where no increasing share of water is the~~  
300 ~~easiest option non-cooperative equilibrium for this type of conflict.~~ After ~~agreeing~~ agreement  
301 among parties for cooperation, parties can sign water treaties agreements that each part  
302 receives a certain amount of water. Such water treaty agreements will be more favourable  
303 than counter acting and colluding among parties, and will secure parties right and reduce their  
304 concerns.

305 ~~The simplification of modeling make imperfect.~~ This study ~~examined~~ examines the  
306 Jordan River basin generic conflict on water ~~as~~ from the socio-political aspect. It ignores  
307 other issues such as religious, regional, and environmental factors that may indirectly affect  
308 this conflict. This paper is also did not focus on the source of water whether it is a  
309 groundwater as a common pool or surface water of the Jordan River. It is only examined the  
310 used of the graph model for resolving water in general for this river basin.

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411 **APPENDIX**

412 Table 1. Decision makers and their Options (Madani and Hipel, 2007).

Decision Makers (DMs)	Options
Syria	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Increasing withdrawal from Jordan River System (Share Increasing)</li> <li>▪ Counteraction against a country that increased its withdrawal</li> <li>▪ Signing Water Treaty with other countries (Water Treaty)</li> <li>▪ Nothing</li> </ul>
Lebanon	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Increasing withdrawal from Jordan River System (Share Increasing)</li> <li>▪ Signing Water Treaty with other countries (Water Treaty)</li> <li>▪ Nothing</li> </ul>
Jordan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Increasing withdrawal from Jordan River System (Share Increasing)</li> <li>▪ Counteraction against a country that increased its withdrawal</li> <li>▪ Signing Water Treaty with other countries (Water Treaty)</li> <li>▪ Nothing</li> </ul>
Israel	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Increasing withdrawal from Jordan River System (Share Increasing)</li> <li>▪ Counteraction against a country that increased its withdrawal</li> <li>▪ Signing Water Treaty with other countries (Water Treaty)</li> <li>▪ Signing a water treaty with the Palestinian Authority (Peace Treaty)</li> <li>▪ Nothing</li> </ul>
Palestine	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Signing a water treaty with the Palestinian Authority (Peace Treaty)</li> <li>▪ Nothing</li> </ul>

413

414 Table 2. Solution concept for conflict resolution.

Solution concept	Description
Nash stability (R)	No other decisions bring a better payoff.
General metarationality (GMR)	If a better option is decided, opponent's counter-actions are safe.
Symmetric metarationality (SMR)	If a better option is decided, opponent's counter-actions are safe and not harmful to opponent.
Sequential stability (SEQ)	If a better option is decided, opponent's beneficial counter-actions are safe.

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417

418 Table 3. Preferences and best solution for coalition scenario 1, with decision preference set 1.

419

Option	Lebanon Payoff	Jordan Payoff	Israel Payoff	Palestine Payoff	Scores	Best Solution	Equilibria
1	W.treaty (50)	W. treaty (50)	W. treaty (30)	P. treaty (100)	18300	1st (best)	R, GMR, SMR, SEQ
4	W.treaty (0)	W. treaty (50)	W. treaty (30)	P. treaty (100)	17800	2nd	R, GMR, SMR, SEQ
5	W.treaty (50)	W. treaty (50)	W. treaty (30)	P. treaty (0)	17300	3rd	R, GMR, SMR, SEQ
2	W.treaty (0)	W. treaty (50)	W. treaty (30)	P. treaty (100)	16800	4th	GMR, SMR, SEQ
3	W.treaty (0)	W. treaty (50)	W. treaty (30)	P. treaty (0)	15800	5th	GMR, SMR, SEQ

420

421

422 Table 4. Preferences and best solution for coalition scenario 1, with decision preference set 2.

423

Option	Lebanon Payoff	Jordan Payoff	Israel Payoff	Palestine Payoff	Scores	Best Solution	Equilibria
1	W.treaty (50)	W. treaty (100)	W. treaty (100)	P. treaty (100)	19500	1st (best)	R, GMR, SMR, SEQ
5	W.treaty (50)	W. treaty (100)	W. treaty (100)	P. treaty (0)	18500	2nd	R, GMR, SMR, SEQ
4	W.treaty (0)	W. treaty (0)	W. treaty (100)	P. treaty (100)	18000	3rd	R, GMR, SMR, SEQ
3	W.treaty (0)	W. treaty (100)	W. treaty (100)	P. treaty (0)	17000	4th	GMR, SMR, SEQ
6	W.treaty (0)	W. treaty (100)	W. treaty (100)	P. treaty (0)	16000	5th	GMR, SMR, SEQ

424

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426

427 Table 5. Uncertainty and stakeholder preferences with 100 experiments.

Stakeholder preferences	Variability range (0-100%)
Lebanon	±10
Jordan	±10
Israel	±10
Palestine	±10

428

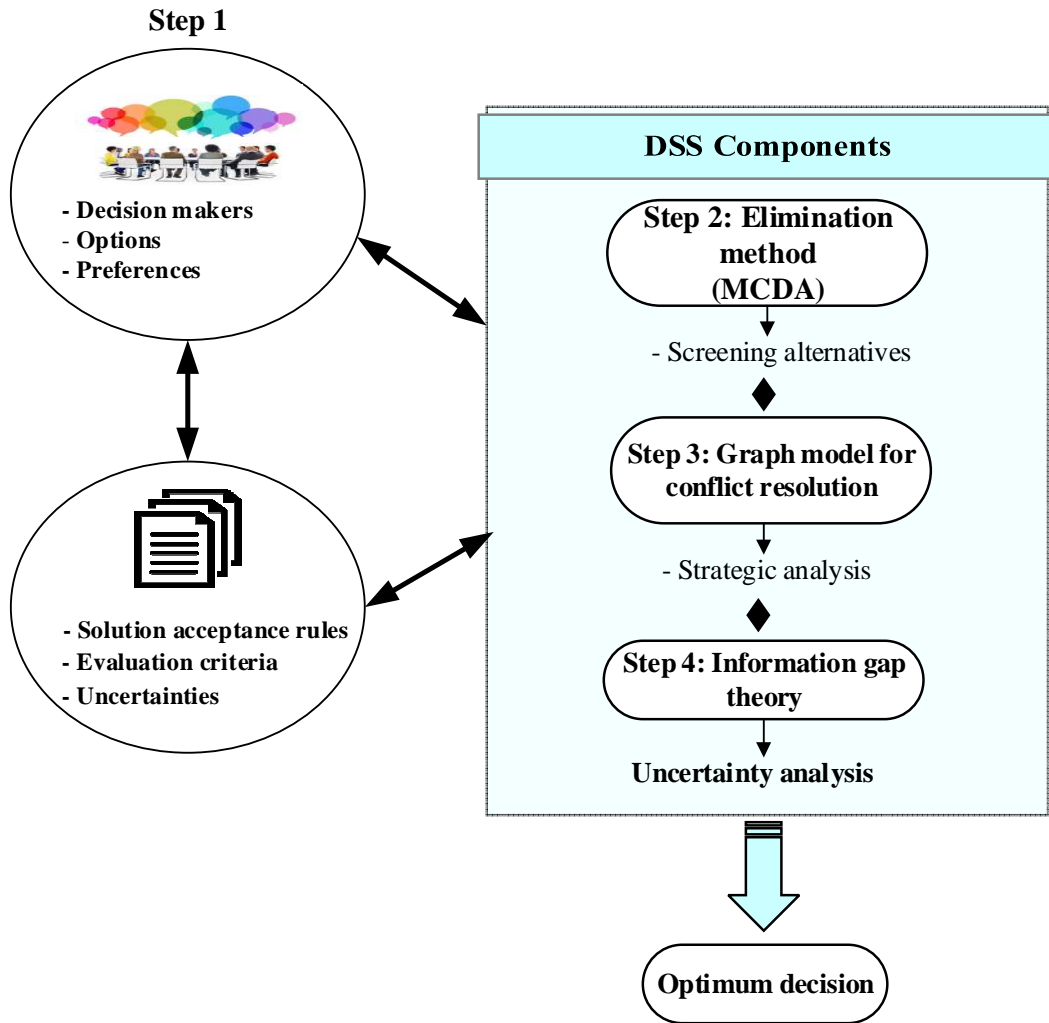
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430

431 Figure 1. Jordan River Basin.

432



433 | Figure 2. Components of the decision support system (DDS) for -water dispute problem.  
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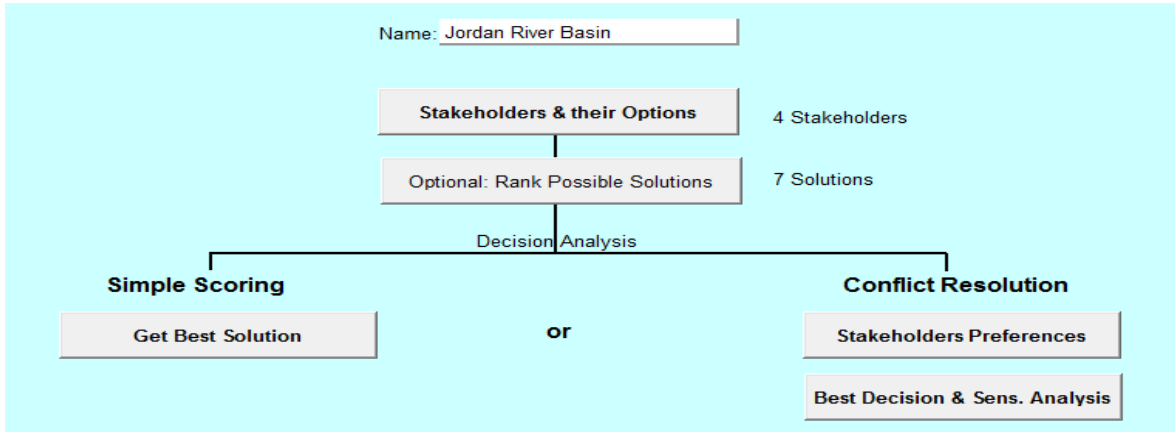
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446 Figure 3. Main interface for the decision support system.

447

Main Menu StakeHolders and their Options

StakeHolders: Use the Add / Del buttons to specify StakeHolders, then enter their Mutually Exclusive decision options.

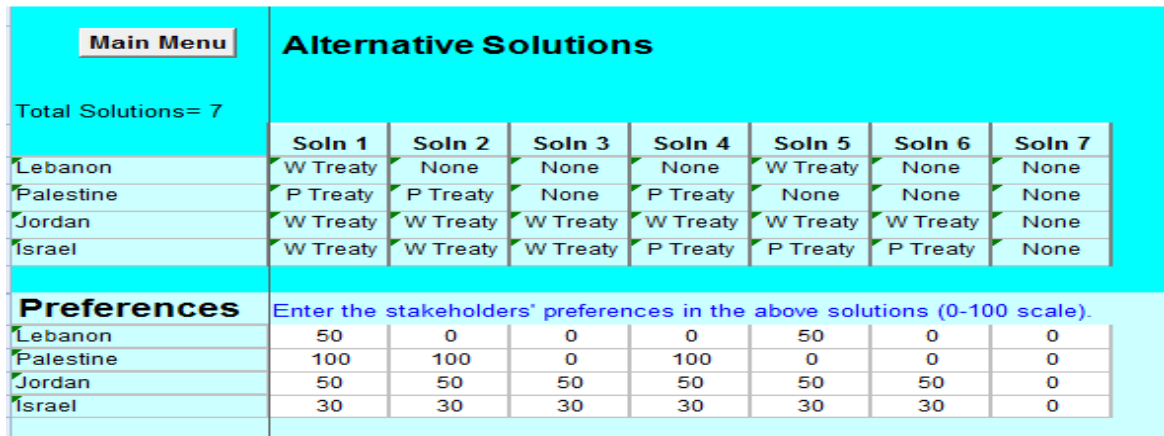
Add Del

Stakeholder	No. of Decision Options	Option 1 Desc.	Option 2 Desc.	Option 3 Desc.	Option 4 Desc.	Option 5 Desc.
Lebanon	3	Inc share	W Treaty	None		
Palestine	2	P Treaty	None			
Jordan	4	Inc share	Counter act	W Treaty	None	
Israel	5	Inc share	Counter act	W Treaty	P Treaty	None

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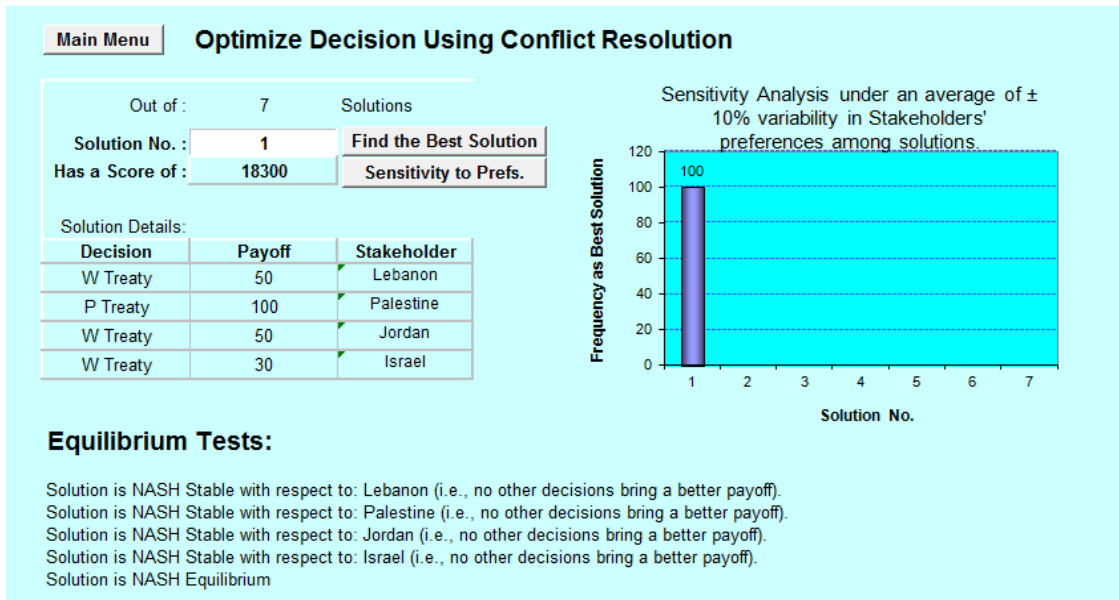
449 Figure 4. Stakeholders and their options.

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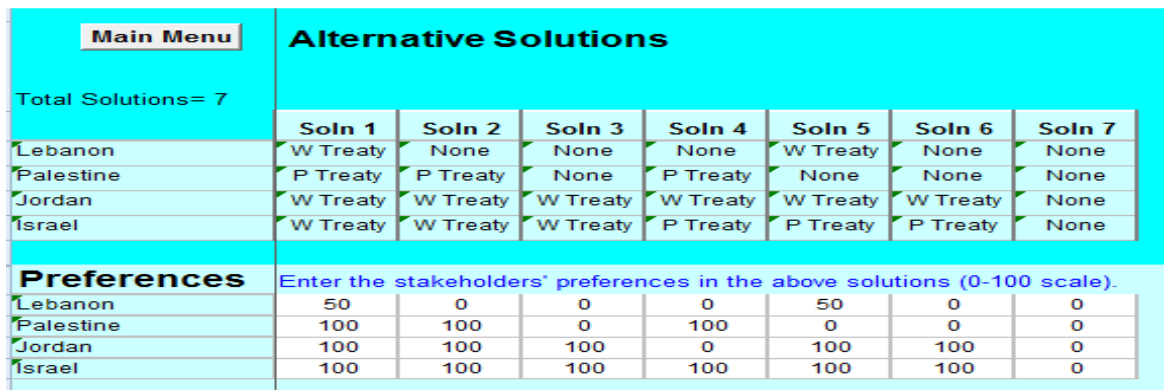
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452 Figure 5. Shortlisted solutions after elimination for coalition scenario 1, with stakeholders'  
453 preferences set 1.



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455 Figure 6. Decision optimisation using conflict resolution.

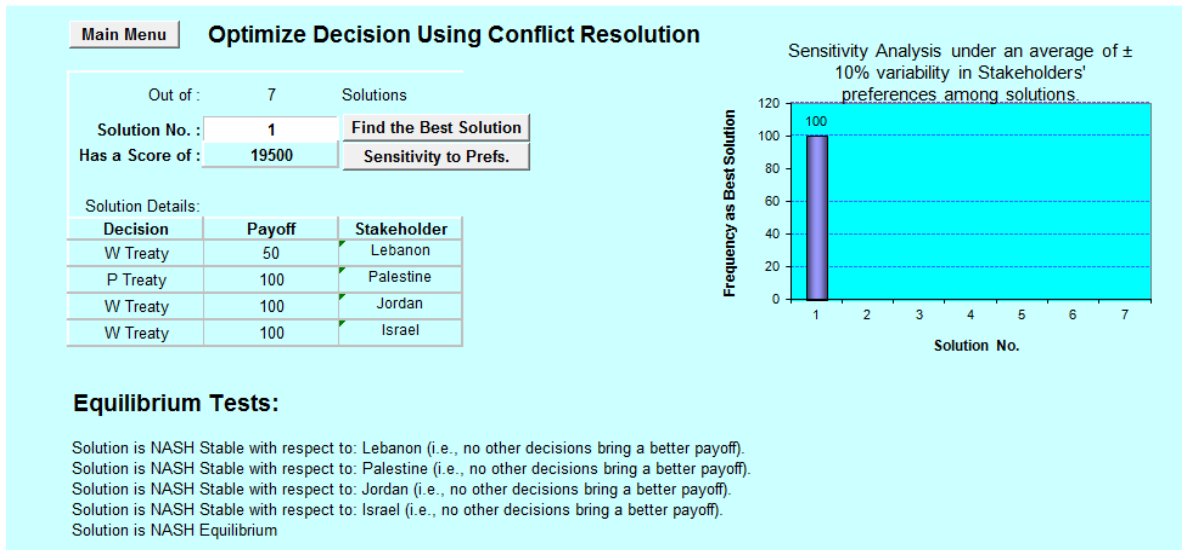


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457 Figure 7. Shortlisted solutions after elimination for coalition scenario 1, with stakeholders'  
 458 preferences set 2.

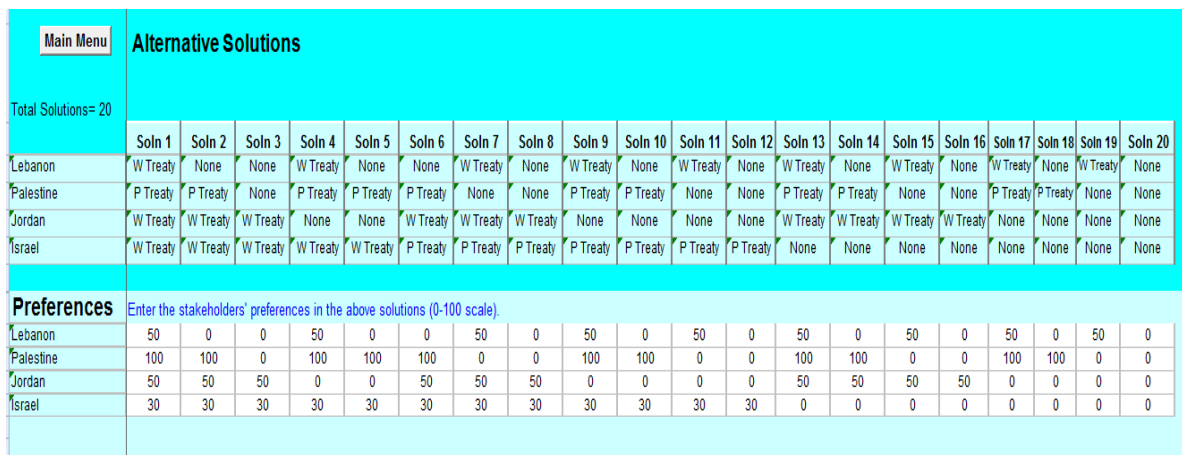
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461 Figure 8. Decision optimisation using conflict resolution with stakeholder preferences of  
 462 100% stakeholders preferences are assigned for Israel, Jordan, and Palestine.

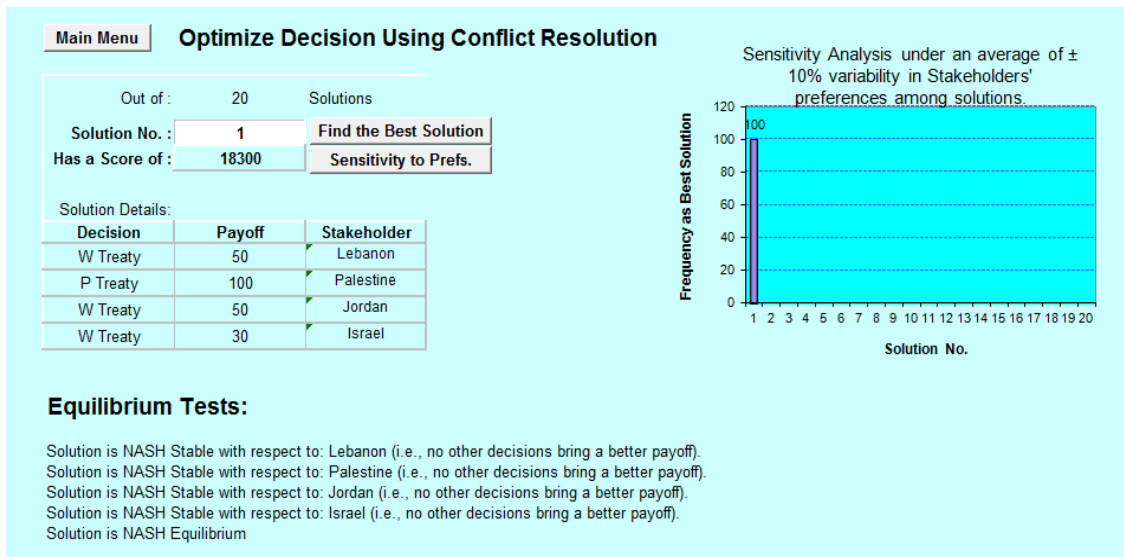
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464

465 Figure 9. Twenty shortlisted solution after elimination of the non-feasible ones, with different  
 466 stakeholder preferences.

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468

469 Figure 10. Decision optimisation using conflict resolution for the twenty shortlisted solution  
 470 when different stakeholders preferences are assigned.